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Message Text

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20
ACTION OES-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CG-00 L-02 EPA-04 OIC-02 IO-10

DOTE-00 FMC-02 COME-00 DLOS-05 INT-05 COA-01 /047 W
---------- 021826
R 240600Z DEC 74
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6943

UNCLAS TOKYO 16714

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SENV, TGEN, JA
SUBJECT: CONVENTION ON THE PREVENTION OF MARINE POLLUTION
BY THE DUMPING OF WASTES AND OTHER MATTER, 1972

REF: STATE A-8922

SUMMARY: JAPAN DOES NOT PLAN TO RATIFY OCEAN DUMPING CONVENTION
UNTIL 1976. END SUMMARY.

1. ON DECEMBER 19, EMBOFF CALLED ON FONOFF TO DETERMINE
JAPANESE PLANS FOR RATIFICATION OF SUBJECT CONVENTION. FONOFF
SAID IT HAD MET WITH ALL AGENCIES INVOLVED (ENVIRONMENT AGENCY,
MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AGENCY, AND
SELF-DEFENSE AGENCY), AND THEY ALL RESOLVED TO RATIFY CONVENTION.

2. CONVENTION PROVIDES FOR THREE TYPES OF ACTIVITY NOT NOW
COVERED BY GOJ LAWS OR REGULATIONS: DUMPING FROM AIRPLANES
(WHICH NOT PRACTICED IN JAPAN), PROVISION FOR GRANTING "SPECIAL
PERMISSIN" FOR DUMPING, AND CONTROL OF SOME POLLUTANTS (SUCH AS
MERCURY AND HALOGENS) NOT NOW LISTED IN RELEVANT GOJ REGULTIONS.
GOJ PRACTICE IS FOR CENTRAL COUNCIL FOR CONTRL OF ENVIRONMENTAL
POLLUTION TO ADVISE CABINET ON SCIENTIFIC BASIS FOR CONTROLLING
EACH MATERIAL. THUS ENVIRONMENT AGENCY IS NOW ANALYZING
EACH ITEM, A PROCESS SCHEDULED TO BE COMPLETD IN 1975. GON
PLANS TO SUBMIT TEXT OF CKNVENTION TO DIET IN 1976 DIET SESSION
(WHICH BEGINS IN JANUARY 1976), TOGETHER WITH PROPOSALS FOR
REVISIONS RQUIRED IN GOJ LAWS.
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3. FONOFF THUS IDENTIFIED 1976 DIET SESSION AS EARLIEST AT WHICH CONVENTION MIGHT BE PASSED. EMBASSY COMMENT: THIS ESTIMATED APPEARS ACCURATE. PASSAGE EVEN IN 1976 MAY PROVE DIFFI ULT. END COMMENT.

4. FONOFF ALSO COMMENTED THAT CONVENTION WILL PROBABLY COME INTO FORCE BEFORE JAPAN RATIFIES. WITHIN THREE MONTHS OF ENTRY INTO FORCE, FONOFF EXPECTS FIRST REVIEW OF CNVENTION TO BE HELD, TO ESTABLISH AN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION TO SUPERVISE CONVENTION'S IMPLEMENTATION. FONOFF COMMENTED THAT JAPAN'S INTERST IN THIS CONFERENCE, WHICH STEMS FROM FACT THAT JAPAN IS A LARGE DUMPER, WILL LEAD IT TO SEND AT LEAST AN OBSERVER TO THIS CONFERENCE. HODGSON

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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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